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January 16, 2002

Ms. Renata Hesse
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

I am writing to comment on the Microsoft settlement.

Not too long ago I was the victim of a costly and unnecessary computer crash that was partially attributable to a non-Microsoft software clash with my computer's Windows operating system.

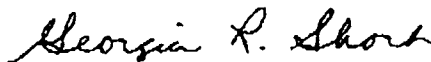
As a consumer I am particularly impressed with the approach the settlement takes to ensure competition and promote the best interests of the consumer public.

With regard to Microsoft's compliance with the settlement, the agreement appears to provide adequate resources, access and authority to quickly respond to any complaints about noncompliance. The independent Technical Committee's power to hire unlimited onsite staff at Microsoft's campus and at that company's expense is also an important and welcome settlement feature.

While the agreement positions the U.S. Justice Department as the sole enforcement authority, the fact that state Attorneys General may take steps to escalate complaints to the Court appears to add a further measure of protection that is important to consumers and the computer industry as a whole.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide my comments.

Sincerely,



Georgia R. Short